

anarchist weekly

Freedom

5p

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As anarchists we are opposed to individuals or groups exercising power over others. Whether it is the foreman at work, the boss, the politicians who form the government, the bureaucrats who administer the state, the police and the armed forces, or finally the trade union leaders.

The columns of FREEDOM have all said that the trade unions would not stand firm against the government's Industrial Relations Act. The TUC's policy has been one of verbal opposition with a "wait and see" approach when they were confronted with the law. When a clash did come with the railmen last year, co-operation and compromise were chosen instead of confrontation and confrontation. But the Guardian points out in a leading article: "Compromise is at the heart of the political

art". And it is no surprise to us that Hugh Scanlon* should offer the government negotiations if they are willing to change sections of the Industrial Relations Act.

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Hugh Scanlon seems to be paving the way to just such talks and eventual compromise. His suggestions for changes are that isolated companies or individuals should not be able to take a trade union or trade unionists to the National Industrial Relations Court without the prior approval of the Secretary of Employment, and that trade unions should not have to register to be recognised as organisations subject to tax concessions.

To give "fair do's", Hugh Scanlon's union has so far defied the courts and in doing so kept to the original

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anal TUC policy of not giving evidence. For this principle the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers has had to pay.

But what seems to have made for this change of heart is the government's legislation restricting pay. From April 1st it is unlawful for workers or trade unions to take action to force an employer to pay more than set out by the government. This could lead to just such a confrontation that the TUC has done its best to avoid over the Industrial Relations Act. If a compromise can be worked out on pay then the government would only be too willing to make changes in the Act. After all, the Act itself when it was used to gaoil the five dockers brought about the very sort of industrial action that both the government and the TUC want to avoid.

Both the politicians and the trade union leaders are happy and experienced at practising the political art of compromise. Neither of them wants to see a situation where the working class starts acting for itself, taking independent action to secure the fruits of its own labour. This is what scares even the "left wingers" like Scanlon, who talk about the working class

taking control but in fact want a society with more State control. His very proposal that the government should give prior approval to companies is giving the State that bit more control over our lives.

Freedom, liberty and workers' control are principles that trade union leaders and politicians use as their stock-in-trade only to board up with conditions.

The interests of the worker and the employer, the trade unionist and the trade union leader, the people and the State are opposed. Those who work for wages will always be exploited and treated as second class citizens. We are but paid producing whatever makes a profit.

Hugh Scanlon and the TUC do not want to change the master-slave position of labour. However, no matter how many times we have to say "we told you so", we believe that this position can change when enough people consciously desire it, that people can come together in free association and practise mutual aid, that industry can be run to produce necessary and useful goods by a system of workers' control. Hugh Scanlon and his ilk want a continuation of wage slavery. We as anarchists want to end it.

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THE MYTH OF THE BENEVOLENT WELFARE STATE HIDES THE REALITY OF THE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF POOR PEOPLE IN AFFLUENT BRITAIN WHO ARE FORCED TO LIVE FROM DAY TO DAY NEVER FREE FROM THE ACUTE PRESSURES OF ECONOMIC INSECURITY. THE LOW-PAID, THE UNSUPPORTED MOTHER AND THE OLD HAVE YET TO EXPERIENCE THE MILK AND HONEY WHICH THE POLITICIANS ALWAYS PROMISE BUT NEVER DELIVER. THE TIGHT-FISTED WELFARE BENEFITS, OFTEN UNPUBLICIZED OR POORLY PUBLICIZED, ARE OBTAINED AFTER A DEGRADING PROCESS OF WAITING AND INTERROGATION.

The recently published REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ABUSE OF SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS is a further indication of an increasing pressure to cut back on

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LAST THURSDAY'S Guardian cartoon portrayed a newspaper-reader outside an industrial slum saying his depressed wife, "Cheer up, - the CBI geezer says we're going to be peasants in Europe".

The 'CBI geezer' was Mr. Michael Clapham, president of the Confederation of British Industries, speaking to foreign press association correspondents at the Savoy, London. He said, "We now have less capital at the disposal of each man employed than our main competitors have unless we put this right we risk becoming the peasants of the western world". Incidentally, the cartoon and any other restaurant or club that Mr. Clapham doubtless patronises

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The recently published REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ABUSE OF SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS is symptomatic of an increasing pressure to cut back on welfare payments. The report called for an extension of the already outrageous system of official snooping including random checks on claimants and the employment of more special investigators. For the time being the Government has stated that it does not intend to introduce random checks but it is going to increase the number of special investigators -- at an undisclosed cost. Particularly obnoxious is the harassment of unsupported mothers whose mere friendship with a man is taken as grounds for suspicion that she is "co-habiting" with him and hence not entitled to any benefit.

The insidious attacks on our already inadequate welfare system are always presented in the guise of wanting to eliminate the "fiddlers" in order to "ensure that the really needy cases get what they deserve". In fact, the result -- and probably the intention -- is to increase the totally unjustified guilt of all claimants. To those in power everyone needs to be convinced that his misfortune is entirely his own fault -- i.e. he is too lazy or too stupid -- but never that the fault lies in the kind of society in which we live. The wealthy raise their hands in horror at the prospect that men can live better when out of work than when in work -- but the conclusion which should be drawn is that millions of men and women are paid at less than subsistence level for a week's hard labour.

It is a popular political cliché that the poor can only be helped by "increasing the prosperity of the nation" but all the experience shows that the poorest section of society reaps little benefit from the rapidly increasing wealth of the rich. Governments all over the world exist to rob us of the product of our labours and, consequently, it is absurd to expect any government to attend to the urgent needs of all its people: that is something we will have to do for ourselves when we take control of our own lives and freely organise society for the good of all instead of for the profit of a few.

Terry Phillips

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What is particularly significant about this remark is that the sult to peasants is something Clapham shares with Karl Marx and other Marxists. Thus is the dialectical process consummated.

During the same week the Guardian's Michael Lake commented on the Minister of Agriculture's opposition to increases in E.E.C. farm prices, which, it is claimed "breeds inefficient peasants". Lake says:

"The Bavarians are extremely inefficient farmers. They run small plots, unlike their East German neighbours, and they charge high prices to offset their inefficiency"

and, later:

"The French too, while having some highly efficient farmers also have some incredibly inefficient peasants who pull down the average E.E.C. prices each year. In effect, the system breeds continuing inefficiency, and fails to provide the spur for structural reform on the land - bigger, more economic farms, fewer people and greater productivity, which the Common Agricultural Policy of the E.E.C. is supposed to correct."

So Britain is under the impression that in the Common Market we are being asked to subsidize inefficiency.

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cy' and a belief that the expansion
of industry would enable the town-
dwellers to bribe the food-growers
with manufactured products in order
to get foodstuffs. The great fam-
ine promoted under Stalin was a
product of this policy; Kruschev
had a more cunning and productive
policy, but even now, disastrous
failures of harvests have made
rationing necessary and soil ero-
sion is not unknown in Russia as in
capitalist America. In reality the
peasant has little need of the
townsman but the townsman has every
need for the peasant.

The illusion that the soil is a
feature of production like a con-
veyor-belt is one suffered equally
by Mr. Clapham, Mr. Lake and dis-
ciples of Mr. Marx. Even Adam
Smith saw the difference: "No
equal capital puts into motion a
greater quantity of productive la-
bour than that of the farmer. Not
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his labouring cattle, are product-
ive labours. In agriculture too,
nature labours along with man; and
though her labour costs no expense,
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workman".

Efforts to obtain maximum produc-
tion from the land are not only
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the quality and nature of the pro-
duce. If nourishment is the end of
agriculture much of its mass-pro-
duced, battery-induced products
fail in that aim. If usefulness is
the aim, the fields given up to
beet and barley (for inferior chemi-

Continued on p.4...

SILVER
AMONG THETHREADS
GOLDThreads in the Black Flag.Compiled by David DeLeon

Research Group One, 50¢

THIS 24-page pamphlet, the twelfth report of Research Group One (2743 Maryland Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21218, USA), is described as "A Bibliographical Outline of Anarchism". David DeLeon states that it is "the most utilitarian, general reference for writings by and about Anarchists", and adds: "While I dare to claim that this is the best reference, it would be absurdly presumptuous to claim that it is perfect." He even suggests that "You should find in this bibliography - somewhere - everything you ever wanted to know about Anarchism but didn't know where to look." Threads in the Black Flag certainly contains a great deal of information, but it is useful mainly because it is virtually unique, and it is indeed far from perfect.

Several hundred items are listed, almost all in English, and most from the United States. There are five sections -- bibliographies and encyclopedias; general studies and anthologies; activists and theorists; some American episodes; and a "Grab-Bag". The first two sections are arranged in alphabetical order of writers, with virtually no annotation to distinguish between the various kinds of material, good, bad and terrible, which is strung together. The coverage is uneven and incomplete, and sometimes highly eccentric.

A bibliographer's dozen of thirteen activists and theorists are covered, again in alphabetical order -- Godwin, Stirner, Proudhon, Bakunin, Kropotkin, Johann Most, Emma Goldman and Alexander Berkman, and Warren, Ballou, Spooner, Andrews and Tucker (on whom DeLeon has written a thesis) from the American tradition; there are also two "Recent Anarchists", Herbert Read and Paul Goodman. The treatment is generally pretty good, though there are many omissions both of primary texts and of secondary commentaries, and it is easy to think of other figures who deserve individual consideration.

Four American episodes are covered -- the Haymarket affair, the McKinley assassination, the International Workers of the World, and the Sacco and Vanzetti case. Again the treatment is generally pretty good, though there isn't enough annotation to distinguish between the many biased works listed.

The "Grab-Bag" is a miscellaneous section, again arranged in alphabetical order of writers, mainly concerned with American

Humboldt, Fourier, Herzen, Sorel, Makhno, Gandhi, Serge, Buber, and a host of anarchist writers below the first rank; little by and nothing on such figures as William Morris and George Orwell; too little by Dwight Macdonald and Max Nomad; nothing by such modern figures as Abbie Hoffman and Jerry Rubin, the Cohn-Bendit brothers, Roel van Duyn, the Our Generation group, the Black Flag group, Solidarity or the Situationists; nothing on Chinese or Japanese anarchism apart from the booklet by Scalapino and Yu, nothing on French anarchism or syndicalism apart from the book by Longoni; nothing on such episodes as Kronstadt 1921 or Paris 1968, the New Left or the nuclear disarmament movement; and so on.

Recent publications

DeLeon is rather out of touch with developments in this country, which isn't his fault. But he should have kept up with recent publications in America -- such anthologies as Paul Berman's Quotations from the Anarchists (Praeger, 1971), Frederick C. Giffin's and Ronald D. Smith's Against the Grain (Mentor, 1971), Priscilla Long's The New Left (Porter Sargent, 1969), Carl Oglesby's The New Left Reader (Grove, 1969), Massimo Salvadori's Modern Socialism (Walker, 1968), Marshall S. Shatz's The Essential Works of Anarchism (Bantam, 1971), Henry J. Silverman's American Radical Thought (Heath, 1970), and Laurence Veysey's Law and Resistance (Harper, 1970), and such documentary histories as Jeremy Brecher's Strike! (Straight Arrow, 1972) and Richard Hofstadter's and Michael Wallace's American Violence (Knopf, 1970), all of which contain relevant material. There have also been many expositions of anarchism, such as Richard and Ernestine Perkins's Rational Anarchy (Perkins, 1971), and many anarchist critiques of society, such as Richard Sennett's The Uses of Disorder (Knopf, 1970), which are missed here.

* * *

On the other hand, some items are superfluous. Thus the A B C of Anarchism and What is Communist Anarchism? are listed separately, without any indication that they are two versions of the same work by Alexander Berkman. And in the section on general studies and anthologies there is one item which has been copied from an earlier bibliography but which is in fact completely imaginary; it would be wrong to identify it, since its reappearance in book is a revealing feature of this kind of work as well as a source of amusement for the people who are alleged to have published the item in question!

A WOMAN'S PLACE

WOMEN, RESISTANCE AND REVOLUTION, by Sheila Rowbotham, Allen Lane, the Penguin Press, £2.95.

Sheila Rowbotham traces the history of women from the days of the Puritans to the present day, ending with accounts of the status of women in China, Viet Nam, Cuba and Algeria. In the first two centuries it is not too bad, in the last two pretty awful. In fact from the seventeenth century to our own day the attitude towards women engaged in revolutionary struggles has been consistent. A woman's place is to make tea, nurse the wounded, run a household and play a supportive role generally. In England, at least, the anarchist movement is predominantly masculine.

It's a good book, but it's a depressing one. It seems so obvious that revolutionaries fighting for the freedom of humanity should include women in their category, but not a bit of it. It's difficult not to feel, after closing this book, that there is an element of hubris in the concealed power-urge in most revolutionary struggles, not just among leaders but throughout the rank and file. For many men power over women is a necessity if they are to feel virile. Why? What's the point of it? The whole thing's senseless.

Machismo, male chauvinism, has reached absurd heights in Cuba and Algeria. Wherever Catholicism or Islam has an upper hand you get these extremes of male dominance exists almost everywhere. The revolutions in Russia, Cuba and in Algeria all fizzled out, in part of their decline the status of women was lowered, and the gains women made were lost. In Russia since the death of Stalin some of these gains have been recovered, but the situation is not good.

The Freudian, and the popular, psychoanalytic theory is that male dominance is natural, and has always obtained, and there is at least some evidence that what we take for granted today was always accepted by humanity. Sheila Rowbotham however is concerned with the modern times, and does not devote much of her work to speculation as to what men (or indeed other men) in a state of subordination to them. As a Marxist she finds it disconcerting that Marxism and feminism seem to go together uneasily.

Unlike so much modern revolutionary writing that I have seen lately this book is free of rhetoric, stream-of-consciousness writing and Marxist jargon. It is a work of historical research, and serves to be widely read. If it is exactly cheering at least it tells the story in a simple, readable way. And that is something that is becoming more and more uncommon.

John Brent

It's done because, in the case of the unpaid work, it's necessary

alphabetical order of writers, with virtually no annotation to distinguish between the various kinds of material, good, bad and terrible, which is strung together. The coverage is uneven and incomplete, and sometimes highly eccentric.

A bibliographer's dozen of thirteen activists and theorists are covered, again in alphabetical order -- Godwin, Stirner, Proudhon, Bakunin, Kropotkin, Johann Most, Emma Goldman and Alexander Berkman, and Warren, Ballou, Spooner, Andrews and Tucker (on whom DeLeon has written a thesis) from the American tradition; there are also two "Recent Anarchists", Herbert Read and Paul Goodman. The treatment is generally pretty good, though there are many omissions both of primary texts and of secondary commentaries, and it is easy to think of other figures who deserve individual consideration.

Four American episodes are covered -- the Haymarket affair, the McKinley assassination, the International Workers of the World, and the Sacco and Vanzetti case. Again the treatment is generally pretty good, though there isn't enough annotation to distinguish between the many biased works listed.

The "Grab-Bag" is a miscellaneous section, again arranged in alphabetical order of writers, mainly concerned with American topics and Tolstoy, but also including books on a few other countries and individuals. Here the treatment is really pretty poor, and it would have been better either to omit the section or develop it properly, or else to incorporate it into the section on general studies and anthologies.

On the technical level, the production isn't bad - typewriter setting and offset printing, like FREEDOM - but there are rather too many mistakes, especially in the spelling of people's names, from Max Nettlaw to Colin War! A serious error of judgement means that many classic works are given only the dates of recent reprints, so there is no way of telling when they were first published, or indeed whether they have been previously published at all. This is particularly serious because of the absence of virtually all critical or even factual annotation. The result is that readers are simply given a list of sources with almost no comment to guide them further.

The items listed are almost entirely books or articles. There are very few pamphlets, though these represent a particularly important category of writings by anarchists, especially militants. Then the articles listed are seldom from anarchist periodicals, though these also represent a particularly important category of writings by anarchists, again especially militants.

Even in the area of books, there are many obvious gaps - nothing by or on such figures as Winstanley,

Salvadori's Modern Socialism (Walker, 1968), Marshall S. Shatz's The Essential Works of Anarchism (Bantam, 1971), Henry J. Silverman's American Radical Thought (Heath, 1970), and Laurence Veysey's Law and Resistance (Harper, 1970), and such documentary histories as Jeremy Brecher's Strike! (Straight Arrow, 1972) and Richard Hofstadter's and Michael Wallace's American Violence (Knopf, 1970), all of which contain relevant material. There have also been many expositions of anarchism, such as Richard and Ernestine Perkins's Rational Anarchy (Perkins, 1971), and many anarchist critiques of society, such as Richard Sennett's The Uses of Disorder (Knopf, 1970), which are missed here.

On the other hand, some items are superfluous. Thus the A B C of Anarchism and What is Communist Anarchism? are listed separately, without any indication that they are two versions of the same work by Alexander Berkman. And in the section on general studies and anthologies there is one item which has been copied from an earlier bibliography but which is in fact completely imaginary; it would be wrong to identify it, since its reappearance in book is a revealing feature of this kind of work as well as a source of amusement for the people who are alleged to have published the item in question!

So you will not find in this bibliography everything you ever wanted to know about anarchism; but you will find a great deal, and it will be useful until it is replaced by a more complete, more careful, and more critical guide to the literature of anarchism.

N. W.

Letter

THE AGE OF UN-REST

Dear Editors,

Jack Spratt in 'The Age of Un-rest' writes like those tweedy essayists who deplore the loss of values in this materialistic age, or like the earlier writer who complained that the peasants were getting too soft because they had acquired wooden pillows. Doesn't he realise how hard most people have to work, and for how little reward? Doesn't he know about the night cleaners, the farm workers, compulsory overtime, the 2-3 hours daily travel (plus unpaid lunch hour on the boss's premises) which make a mockery of even a 7-hour day? Doesn't he realise that half the world's work, the domestic work - which is more than half if you only count useful work - is done by unpaid labour working unlimited hours?

All this work isn't done because of the workers' artificially stimulated greed for TV sets etc.

where. The revolutions in Russia, Cuba and in Algeria all fizzled out part of their decline the status of was lowered, and the gains women made were lost. In Russia since the death of Stalin some of these gains been recovered, but the situation is good.

The Freudian, and the popular, dard theory is that male dominance is natural, and has always obtained, there is at least some evidence that what we take for granted today was always accepted by humanity. Shirley Rowbotham however is concerned in modern times, and does not devote of her work to speculation as to what should feel such a deep need to have men (or indeed other men) in a state of subordination to them. As a Marxist she finds it disconcerting that Marxism and feminism seem to go together uneasily.

Unlike so much modern revolutionary writing that I have seen lately this is free of rhetoric, stream-of-consciousness writing and Marxist jargon. A work of historical research, and serves to be widely read. If it is exactly cheering at least it tells the in a simple, readable way. And it is something that is becoming more and more uncommon.

John Brent

It's done because, in the case of the unpaid work, it's necessary (and custom + capitalist wage labour demands prevent its being more evenly shared) and, in the case of the paid work, it must be performed to the boss's requirements, including hours, if the employee is to earn a living - rent, utilities, food, clothes. If the worker gave up whatever manufactured luxuries he could afford and spent his spare time on worthy pursuits like gardening, handicrafts, it wouldn't much change the quality of his life. The condition of society - but which are defined by the fact that the boss owns the shop.

This fact is even more important than the actual dearth of leisure and disposable income. It contradicts Jack Spratt's prediction of a nightmare of telly-land. He doesn't say for whom his anti-utopia those 16 hours a week at most are to be worked who therefore (beyond, vague 'an organization called Mann' going to be distributing the consumer goods, necessary or unnecessary. But that will be the question in the future just as it is now, whatever the level of application of technology or tastes of the public. 'Consumerism' is a completely nothing issue, usually taken up by those whose class interest obliges them to be economically blind without some reason they want to pose as social critics; I'm surprised to see it being taken up by an anarchist.

Yours sincerely
K. Perlo
London N5

READS LD

oldt, Fourier, Herzen, Sorel, no, Gandhi, Serge, Buber, and st of anarchist writers below first rank; little by and ing on such figures as William is and George Orwell; too le by Dwight Macdonald and Max d; nothing by such modern res as Abbie Hoffman and Jerry r, the Cohn-Bendit brothers, van Duyn, the Our Generation p, the Black Flag group, Soli-ty or the Situationists; no- g on Chinese or Japanese anar- m apart from the booklet by apino and Yu, nothing on ch anarchism or syndicalism t from the book by Longoni; ing on such episodes as Kron- t 1921 or Paris 1968, the New or the nuclear disarmament ment; and so on.

nt publications

Leon is rather out of touch developments in this country, h isn't his fault. But he ld have kept up with recent ications in America - such an- ogies as Paul Berman's Quota- s from the Anarchists (Praeger,), Frederick C. Giffin's and ld D. Smith's Against the Grain tor, 1971), Priscilla Long's New Left (Porter Sargent,), Carl Oglesby's The New Left er (Grove, 1969), Massimo adori's Modern Socialism ker, 1968), Marshall S. Shatz's Essential Works of Anarchism tam, 1971), Henry J. Silver- s American Radical Thought th, 1970), and Laurence ey's Law and Resistance per, 1970), and such documen- histories as Jeremy Brecher's ke! (Straight Arrow, 1972) and ard Hofstadter's and Michael ace's American Violence (knopf,), all of which contain rele- material. There have also many expositions of anarchism, as Richard and Ernestine ins's Rational Anarchy (Perkins,), and many anarchist critiques ociety, such as Richard S ett's The Uses of Disorder pf, 1970), which are missed

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A WOMAN'S PLACE

WOMEN, RESISTANCE AND REVOLU- TION, by Sheila Rowbotham, Allen Lane, the Penguin Press, £2.95.

Sheila Rowbotham traces the history of women from the days of the Puritans to the present day, ending with accounts of the status of women in China, Vietnam, Cuba and Algeria. In the first two coun- tries it is not too bad, in the last two pretty awful. In fact from the seventeenth century to our own day the attitude of men engaged in revolutionary struggles to their comrades who happen to be women has been consistent. A woman's place is to make tea, nurse the wounded, run errands and play a supportive role generally. Men plan, organise and fight. In England today the anarchist movement is predominantly masculine.

It's a good book, but it's a depressing one. It seems so obvious that revolu- tionaries fighting for the freedom of humanity should include women in that category, but not a bit of it. It's diffi- cult not to feel, after closing this book, that there is an element of humbug and concealed power-urge in most revolu- tionary struggles, not just among the leaders but throughout the rank and file also. For many men power over a woman is a necessity if they are to feel fully virile. Why? What's the point of it? The whole thing's senseless.

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Bar)

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This fact is even more important than the actual dearth of leisure and disposable income which so contradicts Jack Spratt's projection of a nightmare of telly-watching. He doesn't say for whom in his anti-utopia those 16 hours a week at most are to be worked, and who therefore (beyond, vaguely, 'an organization called Manna') is going to be distributing the consumer goods, necessary or unnecessary. But that will be the main question in the future just as it is now, whatever the level or application of technology or the tastes of the public. 'Consumerism' is a completely nothing issue, usually taken up by those whose class interest obliges them to be economically blind when for some reason they want to pose as social critics; I'm surprised to see it being taken up by an anarchist.

Yours sincerely,
K. Perlo
London N5

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Jack Spratt replies:

It may have escaped K. Perlo that the scene of the anti-utopia was 2073. Satire (which it was also meant to be) is primarily reducing to an absurdity tendencies which, by themselves, are harmless. Science (or fantasy) fiction is the process of extending into the future technical and social processes which can be observed. The idea of an utopia of complete leisure and absolute consumption seems not only to be the idea of advertisers but also, in their dimmer moments, some leftists and libertarians. It seems to me as much a hell as the hard work which is, at the moment, the lot of many of us.

Jack Spratt.

IMMIGRANT WORKERS' STRUGGLE

BURIED UNDER piles of publications, newspaper reports, official reports, Trade Union reports and statistics on immigration there lies a human element - the immigrant workers themselves, and their struggle to survive in a capitalist society that often they do not understand.

Forced to leave their native land because of economic reasons emanating from the failure of their own government to satisfy the most elementary needs of the working population, immigrants arrive hopefully in this country to work, and are immediately fed by the British immigration laws into the huge machinery of human exploitation, greedily oiled and managed by groups of companies specialised in catering and hotel-keeping, by shark-landlords and also by the STATE, who "manages" our Hospitals and other Welfare services, as a back up service to the capitalist system.

Human waves of would be waiters, cooks, assistant cooks, kitchen porters, hospital ancillary workers, mainly white immigrants from southern Europe (Portugal, Spain, Gibraltar, Italy, Yugoslavia, Greece, Malta, Cyprus and Turkey) arrive daily in this country, some already with "work permits", others entering as tourists, and are given visas of entry ranging from 3 months to 1 year. The workers admitted as tourists will seek later employment in London in hotels and hospitals, using the "services" of private employment agencies for which they have to pay exorbitant fees, and jointly with the others already in possession of such authorisations, they will start a year of sweated labour in hotels and hospitals (with posh and charitable names), under the most degrading and depressing conditions of work, alongside a few British or Irish colleagues, who are in many cases too poor or too unskilled to hold a more lucrative job in other industries, under the "protective shield" of strongly organised Trade Unions.

A Change in the Law

This foreign labour's dependence on the "work permit" system, administered by the Home Office and the Ministry of Labour (sorry ... of Employment and PRODUCTIVITY) is in fact the base of its own exploitation, as these workers are unable to change jobs frequently and force the employers to compete among themselves in offers of good salaries and conditions of work, turning to the workers' advantage the chronic shortage of staff in hotels and hospitals.

Every year the situation of each immigrant worker is reviewed just before termination of the "work permit" and normally another year of stay is granted, in accordance with the needs of the industry. Usually, after 4 years of consecutive work, immigrants are given a "free

initiated by the militant workers (of different political persuasions) in hospitals and hotels has forced the mighty Trade Union bureaucrats to make faint noises about the future of the low-paid workers. Thanks to the militancy of a group of shop stewards unofficially organised in the LONDON ALLIANCE OF STEWARDS OF HEALTH WORKERS (1) (LASH) non-official strikes have been called in favour of £8.00 a week increase in salary (against the £4.00 suggested by NUPE and associates) and lately more strikes have been organised in protest against the "freeze" which will cut down the £4.00 agreed by the employers to £1.80.

In hotels, once more it was the initiative of workers outside the Trade Union bureaucracy that laid the foundations of THE INTERNATIONAL WORKERS BRANCH - TGWU. (2)

In December 1970, a group of Portuguese workers, members of the London anti-fascist PORTUGUESE EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL LEAGUE (3) decided to approach the TUC, TGWU, GMWU, COSHE and NUPE and ask assistance in the setting up of a special Branch for Portuguese workers in London. Surprised by this move, and by the willingness of foreign workers to participate fully in trade union affairs, the Unions contacted responded with courtesy and promised to help in this new venture. After consideration of the answers received, these Portuguese workers finally selected the TGWU as their best bet, taking in consideration that TGWU is a multi-industrial Union covering the industries in which foreign workers and specially the Portuguese are working (hospitals, meat industries and hotels, the last being an open field due to the lack of militancy and non-recognition in the majority of hotels).

International Workers

Quickly a Portuguese Workers' Branch was set up and hundreds of workers of all nationalities responded to this initiative to such an extent that the name of the Branch had to be changed to INTERNATIONAL WORKERS' BRANCH. This Branch has today more than 700 members and its first victory was scored with the Branch's recognition by The Talk of the Town management (after notice to strike), that employs daily a large force of foreign workers.

Since then, an overall improvement in wages has been noticed in the hotel industry in an attempt to calm and water down the recruiting campaign of this Branch effected daily all over London. Wages have been brought up to the minimum required by the Catering Wages Council, which are on average at £11.00 per week for 42 hours of work.

But not surprisingly, an increase in harassment, victimisation and sackings have been noted also, in order to get rid

Lord Citrines, Woodcocks, Feathers, powerful demagogues of the working class. And if you believe that these are strong and unfair words, please read the advertisement published in the FINANCIAL TIMES (6/2/73 page 11), in which Mr. Feather, we are told, is helping to raise, in collaboration with an assorted collection of lords, bankers and other public spongers, the modest sum of £2,500,000 to pay for the modernization of the BRITISH LIBRARY OF LITERATURE, ART, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SCIENCES. This library, I am sure, has never failed in the past and never will fail in the future to provide books, grants and other facilities to those of our enemies interested in learning new theories and techniques of oppression and human exploitation.

What about donating a few thousand pounds from Unions' funds, Mr. Feather???? What about auctioning dried human skins (foreign workers' human skins), Mr. Feather ... and raise some money for your City friends?

Claudio

- (1) LASH Secretary: Mark Palmer, 76 Ifley Road, London W6
- (2) International Workers Branch - TGWU Secretary: José Neves, 21 Theobald Road, London WC1
- (3) PORTUGUESE LEAGUE Secretary: Afonso Teixeira, 21 Theobalds Road, London WC1

GUINNESS IS BAD FOR YOU

I RATIONALLY FAIL to understand what makes people like Mr. Jonathan Guinness, banker, chairman of the Monday Club and owner of the Guinness breweries, hate so much the victims of this capitalist society of which Mr. Guinness is himself one of the influential harvesters.

Not content with profitably intoxicating into stupor with his beer a part of the working class in this country, not content with reaping the rich profits of his banking transactions, not content to poison daily with his fascist and racist propaganda the decadent minds of our children, Mr. Jonathan Guinness now needs and demands blood!

Suggesting, as he did during the recent Lincoln by-election that razor blades could be left in murderers' cells so that they could kill themselves, or proposing, as he did, that capital punishment should be reintroduced and extended to other crimes, such as incitement to murder -- betrays in Mr. Jonathan Guinness's mind a grave pathological condition, against which the working class of this country should protest.

as tourists will seek later employment in London in hotels and hospitals, using the "services" of private employment agencies for which they have to pay exorbitant fees, and jointly with the others already in possession of such authorisations, they will start a year of sweated labour in hotels and hospitals (with posh and charitable names), under the most degrading and depressing conditions of work, alongside a few British or Irish colleagues, who are in many cases too poor or too unskilled to hold a more lucrative job in other industries, under the "protective shield" of strongly organised Trade Unions.

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Every year the situation of each immigrant worker is reviewed just before termination of the "work permit" and normally another year of stay is granted, in accordance with the needs of the industry. Usually, after 4 years of consecutive work, immigrants are given a "free permit" and are allowed to remain in this country without having to go to the local Police station to register name of new employer, new address etc. ... as in the previous 4 years. But rumours are circulating in the foreign communities in London that, under the new immigration law, this "privilege" will be abolished and that the newcomers will not be allowed to stay indefinitely in this country.

Once more we can observe a change of law that favours employers, who will benefit from a turn-over of staff, non-permanent, for which they will not have to cater in social, educational and recreative facilities, avoiding the burdens of an organised labour force demanding full employment, pensions schemes, holidays, sickness benefits as in other industries.

This form of modern slavery is created, condoned and legalised by the immigration laws, that, as any other law operating in this country, favours the rulers and masters and oppresses the weak and the dispossessed.

Miserable Unions

The TUC and Trade Unions traditionally "responsible" for these industries (NUPE, COSHE, GMWU and TGWU in hospitals and GMWU in hotels) have in the past miserably failed to denounce such a state of affairs and combat this open exploitation by organising in these places of work to fight for human salaries and better conditions of work.

And we should not be fooled by the latest wave of militancy shown by the above Unions. Only the push from below

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Since then, an overall improvement in wages has been noticed in the hotel industry in an attempt to calm and water down the recruiting campaign of this Branch effected daily all over London. Wages have been brought up to the minimum required by the Catering Wages Council, which are on average at £11.00 per week for 42 hours of work.

But not surprisingly, an increase in harassment, victimisation and sackings have been noted also, in order to get rid of the militant worker. In a London hotel a group of Filipino chambermaids specially "imported" by the management from their native country, have been told by managers that IT WAS ILLEGAL UNDER FILIPINO LAWS, to join trade unions in this country...! And in a London hospital notices have been pinned on the Staff Board stating that striking could affect the renewal of work permits by the Home Office.

Under constant threat of dismissal, blackmail in relation to the renewal of "work permits" and difficulty in understanding the political situation and laws of this country, our foreign brothers are showing a lead in militancy in fields never touched by unions before, and such initiative should be an inspiration for everyone involved in Trade Union struggle. We should support today their cause hoping that tomorrow, when we are stronger, holding in our own hands our power, we will be able to strike together at all levels and develop our own brand of society, free of human exploitation and forced labour, free to experiment in the art of being human beings.

Bureaucrats and Demagogues

Meanwhile, we should also identify and fight our common enemies, wherever they are operating, in the Ministries, in the City, in the Churches, newspapers, radio and TV stations, universities and even in our Unions.

We should not forget that Trade Unions are contaminated with opportunist bureaucrats, making fat careers at the expense of the Unions' members, aspiring to be

GUINNESS IS BAD FOR YOU

I RATIONALLY FAIL to understand what makes people like Mr. Jonathan Guinness, banker, chairman of the Monday Club and owner of the Guinness breweries, hate so much the victims of this capitalist society of which Mr. Guinness is himself one of the influential harvesters.

Not content with profitably intoxicating into stupor with his beer a part of the working class in this country, not content with reaping the rich profits of his banking transactions, not content to poison daily with his fascist and racist propaganda the defenceless minds of our children, Mr. Jonathan Guinness now needs and demands blood!

Suggesting, as he did during the recent Lincoln by-election that razor blades could be left in murderers' cells so that they could kill themselves, or proposing, as he did, that capital punishment should be reintroduced and extended to other crimes, such as incitement to murder -- betrays in Mr. Jonathan Guinness's mind a grave pathological condition, against which the working class in this country should protect itself.

If it was his duty to do so, I would gladly pose as our executioner, we are told by the daily press, reporting Mr. Guinness's intervention at the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders.

Anaesthetic pills, followed by any other form of execution (?) including beheading were suggested by Mr. Guinness as official forms of justice and crime prevention. "Only by extending the power of the State can we produce a good society" !!! As in Vietnam, in South Africa, Angola, Mozambique, Guiz, Palestine and other countries where people have been and are still being murdered in the name of christian civilisation by Mr. Guinness capitalist friends, Mr. Guinness tells us that in this country, in order to produce a good society, the State must seek revenge and cowardly murder our brothers and sisters that have not been strong enough to survive in this capitalist jungle.

If anyone must be disposed of, let it be the guinnesses of this world. They are the real criminals, that during the past centuries up to our present age, have developed the most inhuman and barbarous economical and social systems, without having a second thought before using slavery, child labour, apartheid, worker-exploitation, foreign labour exploitation, legalised murder, in order to propel themselves into the bloody position of power that they enjoy today.

WORKERS' STRUGGLE

by the militant workers (of dif-
ficult persuasions) in hospitals
has forced the mighty Trade
Union bureaucrats to make faint noises
for the future of the low-paid workers.
To the militancy of a group of shop
workers unofficially organised in the
**ALLIANCE OF STEWARDS
WITH WORKERS (1) (LASH)** non-
strikes have been called in favour
of a week increase in salary
the £4.00 suggested by NUPE
Associates) and lately more strikes
have been organised in protest against the
wage which will cut down the £4.00
paid by the employers to £1.80.

Hotels, once more it was the ini-
tiative of workers outside the Trade
Union bureaucracy that laid the founda-
tion for **THE INTERNATIONAL WORK-
ERS' BRANCH - TGWU. (2)**

In December 1970, a group of Portu-
guese workers, members of the London
Portuguese Education-
Cultural League (3) decided
to approach the TUC, TGWU, GMWU,
and NUPE and ask assistance in
setting up of a special Branch for
these workers in London. Sur-
prisingly this move, and by the willing-
ness of foreign workers to participate
in trade union affairs, the Unions
responded with courtesy and
agreed to help in this new venture.
In consideration of the answers re-
ceived these Portuguese workers fin-
ally selected the TGWU as their best
option in consideration that TGWU
is a multi-industrial Union covering the
industries in which foreign workers and
the Portuguese are working
such as, meat industries and hotels,
being an open field due to the
militancy and non-recognition
by the majority of hotels).

International Workers

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various nationalities responded to this ini-
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Management (after notice to strike),
which employs daily a large force of
Portuguese workers.

Then, an overall improvement in
conditions has been noticed in the hotel indus-
try. An attempt to calm and water down
the agitating campaign of this Branch
has failed daily all over London. Wages
have been brought up to the minimum
set by the Catering Wages Council,
which is on average at £11.00 per week
for 40 hours of work.

Not surprisingly, an increase in
victimisation and sackings

Lord Citrines, Woodcocks, Feathers,
powerful demagogues of the working
class. And if you believe that these are
strong and unfair words, please read
the advertisement published in the **FIN-
ANCIAL TIMES** (6/2/73 page 11), in
which Mr. Feather, we are told, is
helping to raise, in collaboration with
an assorted collection of lords, bankers
and other public spongers, the modest
sum of £2, 500, 000 to pay for the modern-
ization of the **BRITISH LIBRARY OF POLI-
TICAL AND ECONOMIC SCIENCES**. This
library, I am sure, has never failed in
the past and never will fail in the future
to provide books, grants and other facil-
ities to those of our enemies interested
in learning new theories and techniques
of oppression and human exploitation.

What about donating a few thousand
pounds from Unions' funds, Mr.
Feather???? What about auctioning
dried human skins (foreign workers'
human skins), Mr. Feather ... and
raise some money for your City friends?

Claudio

- (1) **LASH** Secretary: Mark Palmer,
76 Ifley Road, London W6
- (2) **International Workers Branch -
TGWU** Secretary: José Neves,
21 Theobald Road, London WC1
- (3) **PORTUGUESE LEAGUE**
Secretary: Afonso Teixeira,
21 Theobalds Road, London WC1

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ECHOES FROM THE PAST

TO SUGGEST that we are facing a poten-
tial fascist threat can easily seem ludic-
rulous when fascism is regarded in terms
of the superficial form it took in, for
instance, Nazi Germany. A strutting
little man in uniform is out of time and
place as the Hitler-worshippers of the
National Front have come to realize.
However, the political and economic
base for fascism is clear to be seen.

The Right-wing Monday Club which has
in the past acted as a pressure group with-
in the Conservative Party is now under
pressure from within its own ranks to con-
vert itself into a "populist movement"
which will openly challenge Heath and the
Conservative leadership. The proposals
come from a group of newcomers who
have swelled the ranks to something like
9,000 in the last two years and the inten-
tion is to attract the members of the Na-
tional Front to a "rejuvenated" Monday
Club with a mass membership and no in-
sistence on loyalty to the Conservative
Party. Significantly, last year a number
of young members of the Club attended
a conference of the MSI, the neo-fascist
movement in Italy.

Last week three millionaires said to
be "major City and industrial leaders"
financed a national campaign to promote
Enoch Powell's popularity within Con-
servative constituency parties. A letter
sent to all Conservative Associations
explains how and why Powell appeals to
the "ordinary man-in-overalls". The
fact that Powell has been for so long an
advocate of "free enterprise" capitalism
and a defender of "market forces" under-
lines his extraordinary turnabout in de-
fending the Government's decision to
inject £5 million into Manganese Bronze
to buy the ailing BSA motor cycle firm.
The high priest of unfettered capitalism
now says of State intervention in industry
that "in the modern world there is no al-
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Powell waits in the wings.

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This is the reason why there is
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care at all about. A great portion
of the people now clearly under-
stand the nature and effects of the
system; they are not now to be de-
ceived by speeches and professions.
If Pitt and Fox had now to start,
there would be no 'Pittites' or
'Foxites'. Those happy days of
political humbug are gone for ever.
The 'gentlemen opposite' are oppo-
site only as to mere local position.
They sit on the opposite side of
the house: that's all. In every
other respect they are like parson
and clerk; or, perhaps, rather
more like rooks and jackdaws: one
caw and the other chatter; but
both have the same in view: both
are in pursuit of the same sort of
diet. One set is, to be sure IN
place, and the other OUT; but
though the rooks keep the jackdaws
on the inferior branches these
latter would be as clamorous as the
rooks themselves against felling
the tree!

WILLIAM COBBETT

Rural Rides
(1825)

Anarchist Classics Series
ABC OF ANARCHISM
—Alexander Berkman.
Biographical Notes and
Reprint of Freedom Press
Edition with a new Intro-
duction by Peter E. Newell,

NEW PRINTING COMING OFF THE PRESS

Price 25p (post 3½p)
60p " 10p

Viciously Atrocious Trickery!

CAPITALISM, that inhuman method of ordering everyday affairs, whereby a fractional minority of exploiters plausibly manage to persuade the unthinking, gullible majority of men and women to entrust their lives, liberties and happiness to their rulers, leaders and 'governors', has committed crimes galore over the centuries. This cruel authoritarian mode of subjecting human beings all the globe over to endless exploitation, robbing the workers at the point of production has now been compelled to fall in line with the European Common Market system of Value Added Tax.

A massive publicity campaign (paid for incidentally with taxes filched from us) launched by the British government, sets out to inform the public how the household spending money is affected by the change-over from, in many cases, purchase taxes plus selective taxes, now replaced by Value Added Tax. To most housewives, and others who buy the needs for self and dependants, VAT causes more problems than ever before, when deciding how best to spend the wage earner's pay, so as to obtain the maximum benefit for the minimum monetary outlay.

Food, so the government declare, will not go up in price because of VAT. Sounds fair enough, for those folk willing to accept governmental declarations. Experience teaches us to be wary of anything and everything emanating from governmental spokesmen and spokeswomen. The truth is, very many of us from time to time, when working long distances away from home, are compelled to eat out in restaurants or cafes or pubs, or else go hungry.

Already, commencing 'All Fools Day, April 1st (isn't it positively astonishing how those in power who rule, school and fool us arrange the latest act of infamous folly to coincide with the proverbial All-Fools'-Day) a considerable number of eating establishments in ever so many parts of the land have upped their prices. Menus printed in readiness for AFD (All Fools Day) when compared with menus formerly provided in the same eating places - for those folk who have not already forgotten prices formerly charged - show, not the 10 per cent governmentally decreed tax called VAT but, in lots of cases, advances of 15 and even 20 per cent. on prices charged up to March 31st.

For millions of households VAT will mean permanently VERY AGONIZING TROUBLES, higher prices payable when eating out will be merely the tip of the iceberg in the vast ocean of domestic storms, just a small part of the increased cost of living inflicted upon the long suffering multitudes who sheepishly swallow hook, line and sinker all the lying propaganda churned out by every crook, swine and stinker, in pursuance of capitalist objectives, best summed up in the phrase, Man's domination of his fellow male and female creatures.

A huge number of household necessities never before subject to purchase tax and/or selective employment tax are now raised in price by ten per cent, this VAT: Violently Annoying Tormentor. Bad enough that millions of hard working folk have a terrible struggle to make ends meet and keep body

and soul alive. By the impact of this new and heavy iniquitous burden VAT, such elementaryentials for so many homes: extra polythene dustsheets, polybags for food storage, pair of wall coverings, door closers, hand-tools, just to mention household needs are now increased in price by 10%. This of course when the retailer adheres to regulations. But we all know prone so many shopkeepers are take liberties with profits at expense of the purchaser.

As sure as night follows day the foreseeable future this will go up and up, for all experience proves, undeniably, taxes don't come off, they increase. This in spite of government's pretences of holding back further inflation.

When we awaken to the fact of life that all taxation is for purpose of maintaining the status quo of the State; the State that ugly, vile and monstrous horrific Machine which makes interrupted slaughter viz War inevitable, when we come to senses and decide to strike for more pay to meet the increased cost of living (in the cost of killing), then we decide to strike for the ABOLITION OF THE WAGE SLAVERY MONEY, then, and not before, dare we look forward to a true Free Society, a Society where all humans the globe over participate in nature's boundless abundances, a society forever stripped of the plagues of Industry, War, Crime and Social Injustice.

Mark William Kramer

FIGHTING ON THE WRONG FRONT

Richard Handyside, publisher of The Little Red Schoolbook, said in London this evening that the battle against censorship "is all too often fought on the wrong front, at the wrong level, in the wrong way, and consequently fails to bring us nearer to what I would call freedom of expression". Mr Handyside was speaking at a dinner organised in his honour by the National Secular Society. He continued:

"The big literary censorship cases receive generous support from the liberal community and wide publicity in the media, but countless cases of more direct censorship receive little or no publicity and scant support. Clearly there is an element of self-protection involved on the part of the small minority of the population who actually read books.

"However in the last analysis it comes down to a question of class interests.

For the middle class, homelessness, un-

A LIBERTARIAN ANTHOLOGY

Keith Paton and Tessa Forrester, 53 Kitchener Road, Selly Park, Birmingham 29, telephone number 021-472-2945, are planning a new anthology of libertarian writings. Although a number of old anarchist material has been republished in recent years they feel the time has come to collect pieces which relate to the struggles of today.

They have already considered a rough plan, under the following headings:

- 1) Class Struggle
- 2) Imperialism/Racism
- 3) Post Scarcity/Alternative Society
- 4) Anti-Role/Subverting the Professions
- 5) Women's Liberation
- 6) Living Our Movement/Organising
- 7) Info Section (especially for getting new people actively tuning in).

They would welcome lists of articles/pamphlets which people think should be included, preferably material which is down to earth and which is

regards conversion into food a cow is the most inefficient method of conversion.

There is a superior efficiency in conservation of the soil between arable and animal husbandry the waste-products of one supply the other. There is an efficiency in keeping the soil in good state for the next generation. This has no relation to size of deed there is a spurious efficiency in the larger unit with its culture. It is a fact that smaller units produce more food and variety of food per acre than the vast hedgeless prairies.

This is, of course, because the true peasant-cunning the peasant feeds first himself and his family from his smallholding. If the factory workers and farm labourer content with what passes for food in towns he can grow that to which the price is right.

The European Economic Community is not concerned, in any case, with maximum production of food to feed the world's starving. In the

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"However in the last analysis it comes down to a question of class interests. For the middle class, homelessness, unemployment, police harassment, race discrimination, inadequate education, industrial diseases and accidents are largely problems of conscience rather than issues that affect them directly. Direct concerns tend to be things like the environment, sexual freedom, drug laws, literary censorship. Couple this with the fact that most of the media are owned or effectively controlled by a tiny minority of the rich, and the result is fairly inevitable; the more directly a publication, speech, action or movement threatens the interests of those in control of our society, the more seriously its suppression is attempted and the less this suppression is likely to be publicised.

"Freedom is indivisible, and freedom of expression can only be meaningful if everybody in society has not only the legal right to express themselves but, more importantly, the means of doing so. The majority of ordinary people tend to be inarticulate - at least in terms normally acceptable to the media - as a result of inadequate education; unlike liberal pressure groups they don't have contacts in the media through whom they can place stories; and a long working day in a factory or on a building site leaves little time or energy for writing letters to the editor. Until these barriers to self-expression are removed - and this would inevitably involve a fundamental restructuring of society - freedom of expression is likely to remain a dead letter, and the fight against censorship will remain an interesting but largely irrelevant diversion".

Press Release

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They would welcome lists of articles/pamphlets which people think should be included, preferably material which is down-to-earth, not highly philosophical and theoretical. "If you think," they say, "that we'll have difficulty in finding any of the stuff you are recommending, then send it and we'll send it back without fail." They hope that, apart from the political value of the book, its sale will raise £200 towards a movement printing press in Birmingham.

M.H.

PRESS FUND

Contributions received 22-28 March

COTTON, Minn.: C.C. £1.10; BOULDER Colo.: R.J. 10p; London N.19: R.U. £2; ARVIKA, Sweden: R.S. 65p; WHITTIER, Cal.: E.V. £5; NEW YORK: N.M. £3; SHEFFIELD; P.L. £1; WOLVERHAMPTON: J.L. 50p; J.K.W. 10p; ST. CLOUD, Minn.: M.G.A. £26.45; NEW YORK: P.A. £2; LEAMINGTON: M.E. 15p; NEW YORK: L.M. £1.85

TOTAL: £43.90

Previously acknow'd: 560.53

TOTAL TO DATE: £604.43

THE LAND continued from p.1

cally-aided beers) and wheat (for the pallid sponge-like pap that passes for bread) are wasted, before the soil is exhausted.

If the measure of efficiency is the absence of manpower, farming sheep (prone to all diseases and supremely destructive of grassland) is the most efficient. As

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The European Economic Community is not concerned, in any case, with maximum production of food to prevent the world's starving. In the place the starving have not the money to buy the food; secondly, a shortage of foodstuffs will mean the agro-industrialists' boom - and they mean the cash-boom.

It is easy to wax romantic about 'return to the soil' and 'the dy peasant yeoman' but it is not that true independence of spirit can arise from self-sufficiency in foodstuffs and that a producer on a small-holding will save one utter dependence on the capitalist system. At the same time it is not provide the blueprint for a world where agriculture was not integrated with the life of the city (no more sneers of 'peasant but agriculture and industry once more contribute to each other. Industry could supply the small power-tools which would make culture neither the dusty culture of production line it has become the dreary back-breaking drudgery it can be. The interchange of labour between agriculture and industry in summer and winter make for a more balanced healthy individual.

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Jack Robin

trocious Trickery!

ready, commencing All Fools' Day, April 1st (isn't it positively astonishing how those in power who rule, school and fool us manage the latest act of infamy to coincide with the proverbial All-Fools'-Day) a considerable number of eating establishments in so many parts of the land have upped their prices. Menus advertised in readiness for AFD (All Fools' Day) when compared with those formerly provided in the eating places - for those who have not already forgotten - prices formerly charged - show, the 10 per cent governmentally imposed tax called VAT but, in some cases, advances of 15 and 20 per cent. on prices charged up to March 31st.

For millions of households VAT means permanently VERY AGONIZING TROUBLES, higher prices paid when eating out will be merely the tip of the iceberg in the ocean of domestic storms, a small part of the increased cost of living inflicted upon those long suffering multitudes who miserably swallow hook, line and sinker all the lying propaganda peddled out by every crook, swine and stinker, in pursuance of capitalist objectives, best summed up in the phrase, Man's domination of fellow male and female creatures.

A huge number of household necessities never before subject to a house tax and/or selective employment tax are now raised in price by ten per cent, this VAT is a pretty Annoying Tormentor. Bad enough that millions of hard working folk have a terrible struggle to make ends meet and keep body

and soul alive. By the imposition of this new and heavy iniquitous burden VAT, such elementary essentials for so many homes: examples polythene dustsheets, polythene bags for food storage, paints, wall coverings, door closers, hand-tools, just to mention a few household needs are now increased in price by 10%. This of course when the retailer adheres to the regulations. But we all know how prone so many shopkeepers are to take liberties with profits at the expense of the purchaser.

As sure as night follows day, in the foreseeable future this VAT will go up and up, for all experience proves, undeniably, taxes don't come off, they tend to increase. This in spite of the government's pretences of holding back further inflation.

When we awaken to the facts of life that all taxation is for the purpose of maintaining the status quo of the State; the State, that ugly, vile and monstrously horrific Machine which makes uninterrupted slaughter viz War, inevitable, when we come to our senses and decide to strike, not for more pay to meet the increased cost of living (in truth the cost of killing), then when we decide to strike for the ABOLITION OF THE WAGE SLAVERY MONEY, then, and not before then, dare we look forward to a truly Free Society, a Society wherein all humans the globe over participate in nature's boundless abundances, a society forever stripped of the plagues of Poverty, War, Crime and Social Injustice.

Mark William Kramrisch

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HEMEL HEMPSTEAD area - anarchists/libertarians interested in forming group please contact Roderick Parkes, 90 Queensway, Hemel Hempstead, Herts.

KICK OUT CARS IN CROYDON. Church Street (Croydon) will be closed to traffic at 3 o'clock on Saturday 7th April. Bring your friends! Phone Kevin (777 2822) for details.

THE MENTAL PATIENTS UNION will be holding a general meeting on SATURDAY 7th APRIL at 2 p.m. in the Polytechnic Hall, 60 Malden Road, N.W.5. Phone Andrew Roberts 804-2357

Teachers wanted for Free Schools. Write to: Tony Brantingham c/o Dwarf News, 14a Hansard Mews, London, W14 8BJ

Will all organisations please note there is a new secretary of Harleech Libertarian Group (including ASA and ORA): Bob Long, Coleg Harlech, Merioneth, N. Wales

LONDON ASA meets every Wednesday at 7.30 p.m. at 3 Grange House, Highbury Grange, N5. Black & Red Outlook always available, by post 5p + 2p

NOTTINGHAM: Trent Polytechnic new anarchist group forming. Contact Shirley Moreno and John Hinsley through Fine Art Dept., Dryden St., Nottingham.

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MICHAEL TOBIN DEFENCE COMMITTEE 265 Dale Street, Chatham, Kent

STOKE NEWINGTON FIVE SOLIDARITY

LIBERTARIAN ANTHOLOGY

John Paton and Tessa Forrester, 53 Sennar Road, Selly Park, Birmingham telephone number 021-472-2945, are editing a new anthology of libertarian writings. Although a number of old anarchist material has been republished in recent years they feel the time has come to collect pieces which relate to the struggles of today.

They have already considered a rough outline under the following headings:

- Class Struggle
- Imperialism/Racism
- Post Scarcity/Alternative Society
- Anti-Role/Subverting the Professions
- Women's Liberation
- Living Our Movement/Organising
- Info Section (especially for getting new people actively tuning in).

They would welcome lists of articles/leaflets which people think should be included, preferably material which is

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They would welcome lists of articles/leaflets which people think should be included, preferably material which is down-to-earth, not highly philosophical or theoretical. "If you think," they say, "that we'll have difficulty in finding some of the stuff you are recommending, we'll send it and we'll send it back without fail." They hope that, apart from the political value of the book, its sale will raise £200 towards a movement publishing press in Birmingham.

M.H.

SS FUND

Contributions received 22-28 March

MINN.: C.C. £1.10; BOULDER CO.: R.J. 10p; London N.19: R.U. ARVIKA, Sweden: R.S. 65p; OTTIER, Cal.: E.V. £5; NEW YORK: £3; SHEFFIELD: P.L. £1; VERHAMPTON: J.L. 50p; J.K.W. 10p; CLOUD, Minn.: M.G.A. £26.45; YORK: P.A. £2; LEAMINGTON: £1.75p; NEW YORK: L.M. £1.85

TOTAL: £43.90

Previously acknowledged: 560.53

TOTAL TO DATE: £604.43

LAND continued from p.1

ly-aided beers) and wheat (for pallid sponge-like pap that is for bread) are wasted, because the soil is exhausted. The measure of efficiency is the absence of manpower, farming (prone to all diseases and extremely destructive of grassland) is the most efficient. As

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STOKE NEWINGTON FIVE SOLIDARITY Committee, 54 Harcombe Road, London, N.16

STOP THE FRENCH TESTS. Contact Greenpeace, c/o 176 Finchley Road London, N. W. 3.

S.E. London Gutter Press, contact Vera Krishek, 01-852 8879

Libertarian Struggle, monthly paper of ORA, 5p + 2½p post, or sub £1. for 12 issues from 29 Cardigan Road, Leeds (also in Freedom Bookshop)

"Spies for Peace" the INSIDE STORY March/April issue, also containing more on prisons. 20p + 3½p post from 3 Belmont Road, S. W. 4 or Freedom Bookshop.

Marked for Life, anarchist booklet against exams in univs. & colleges, 18p from M.F.L. 36a Fairfield Gardens, N.8 or Freedom Bookshop

Ian and Peggy Sutherland revised new address: 13 Deincourt Close, (Plot 38), Pheasant Field Development, Dale Road, Spondon, Derby

Subscribers change of address: please notify us if you can at least a week before operative date

We welcome news, articles letters. We go to press Monday so latest date for receipt of MSS & Notices is the Monday in each week of publication.

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